
Second Session, Forty-second Parliament
70 Elizabeth II, 2021
Legislative Assembly of British Columbia

BILL 29

INTERPRETATION AMENDMENT ACT, 2021

Honourable David Eby
Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing

Explanatory Notes

SECTION 1: *[Interpretation Act, section 8.1]* adds a section respecting section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982* and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

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INTERPRETATION AMENDMENT ACT, 2021

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, enacts as follows:

1 The Interpretation Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 238, is amended by adding the following section:

Section 35 of Constitution Act, 1982 and Declaration

8.1 (1) In this section:

“**Declaration**” has the same meaning as in the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*;

“**Indigenous peoples**” has the same meaning as in the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*;

“**regulation**” has the same meaning as in the *Regulations Act*.

(2) For certainty, every enactment must be construed as upholding and not abrogating or derogating from the aboriginal and treaty rights of Indigenous peoples as recognized and affirmed by section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.

(3) Every Act and regulation must be construed as being consistent with the Declaration.

Commencement

2 This Act comes into force on the date of Royal Assent.